CHAPTER 3

RAF ORDERS OF DRESS - FEMALE PERSONNNEL

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Introduction

This chapter illustrates, through a selection of explanatory notes and illustrations, the various orders of dress for female RAF personnel and stipulates the occasions on which each type of uniform should be worn. In these regulations and tables, MaCr are included in any general reference to WOs. Female officers and airmen of the PMRAFNs are to comply with the RAF orders of dress as detailed in Chap 4. Chaplains also conform to these orders, except where stated otherwise.

No 1 SD – Female Officers and Airwomen

0301. Occasions for Wear.

a. **No 1 SD Uniform**. The No 1 SD is to be worn on all formal and ceremonial occasions as ordered by MOD or Commanders in Chief (CINCs). Additionally, local commanders have the discretionary power to authorise its wear at other times. Illustrations and relevant Orders of Dress are detailed at the end of this section.

b. **No 1A SD Uniform (Ceremonial Day).** No 1A SD is identical to No 1 SD, except that ceremonial sash and shoulder boards are worn by entitled officers. It is worn when No 1A SD is appropriate formally on parade or in a formal representative role. The No 1A SD Uniform is restricted to:

(1) AVM rank and above.

(2) Officers assigned to the 1* appointment of Comdt RAFC Cranwell, Air Officer Wales, Air Officer Scotland, CG RAF Regt/AO RAFP, Comdt RAFAC and retired Air Officers appointed as Lady Ushers to the Sovereign. DNS (RAF) and the RAF Equerry to Her Majesty The Queen, by nature of appointment, wear the AO sash but not ceremonial boards.

0302. Ceremonial Occasions/Females on Parade. Mixed dress of skirts or trousers is permitted within a parade unless a commander directs otherwise based on a clear rationale. For more major, national or state ceremonial occasions the mode of dress will be as directed by SO1 RAF Ceremonial, RAF Northolt and Units advised accordingly.

Authorised Ensemble

0303. Hat. Only the Service issue No 1 SD hat may be worn, as follows:

a. **Officers.** Gp Capts and above wear a hat with an embellished patent peak; Wg Cdrs and below wear a hat with a cloth-covered peak. Off Cdts wear a white band over the black mohair band.

b. **WOs.** WOs wear a hat with a cloth-covered peak with an anodised badge depicting an eagle surrounded by laurel leaves surmounted by a crown. RAFP WO wear a white-topped hat.

c. **Airwomen.** The airwomen's No 1 SD hat is worn by all non-commissioned ranks other than WO. RAFP wear a white topped No 1 SD hat.

0304. No 1 SD. The No 1 SD female uniform is manufactured as a 3-piece suit consisting of jacket, skirt and trousers. Commissioned officers and WOs wear the same style jacket. However, the following officers also wear plain shoulder boards:

a. AVM and above.

b. Officers assigned to those 1* posts detailed at Para 0301b(2).

c. All officers who are entitled to wear aiguillettes and/or the Royal Cypher (including Honorary Chaplains to the Sovereign).

All airwomen of FS rank and below wear the same style jacket, incorporating the eagle shoulder badge.

0305. Ironing of No 1 SD. The styling of the jacket is not to be altered by ironing-in pleats or creases. Uniform jacket sleeves are constructed to meet the physical silhouette of the arm in repose. When the arm is held stiffly in the "attention", ironed-in creases merely accentuate the distortion of the back of the jacket. Sleeves should only be lightly pressed, using a damp cloth, to iron out lateral creases, this can be best achieved by using a sleeve board. The No 1 SD trousers are to be worn with pressed in creases, front and back, extending the full length of each leg.

0306. No 1 SD Skirt. Only the issue No 1 SD suit skirt is to be worn with the No 1 SD jacket. Vertical creases are not to be pressed into the skirt. The finished length of uniform skirts is to be mid knee.

0307. Shirt. The Service issue female long-sleeved wedgwood blue shirt is always to be worn, with creases pressed in on each sleeve, running from the centre of the shoulder strap to the cuff. Front darts are to be pressed in to the level of the second button and the rear darts down the full length of the shirt.

0308. Tie. A plain black Service issue tie is to be worn, secured with a Windsor knot. Chaplains may wear a clerical collar with a spade stock.

0309. Hose. The approved uniform dress hose colour for wear with No 1 SD on ceremonial occasion is: 15 Denier – Nearly or Barely Black.

0310. Shoes. Highly polished Service issue black laced shoes are to be worn on marching occasions, otherwise Service issue court shoes may be worn. Court shoes are not to be worn with trousers.

0311. Gloves. Brown Service issue leather gloves are to be worn or carried by officers and WOs at detailed in Chap 1 Para 0141 (a). White gloves will be worn if swords are carried. If ordered, airwomen wear issue black leather gloves. As detailed in Chap 9, personnel may be required to wear white cotton gloves on certain ceremonial occasions.

0312. Greatcoat. The wearing of greatcoats with No 1 SD is authorised as follows:

a. **Parades and Ceremonial.** When required, for inclement weather, etc, the greatcoat is the authorised wear for ceremonial occasions and parades. Except for personnel who possess their own serviceable issue, greatcoats are provided on loan as required, in accordance with GAI 1020.

b. **Other occasions (Non Ceremonial).** When required for inclement weather and unless otherwise ordered, on non-ceremonial occasions, individuals who have their own serviceable issue greatcoats may wear them as outerwear with No 1 SD.

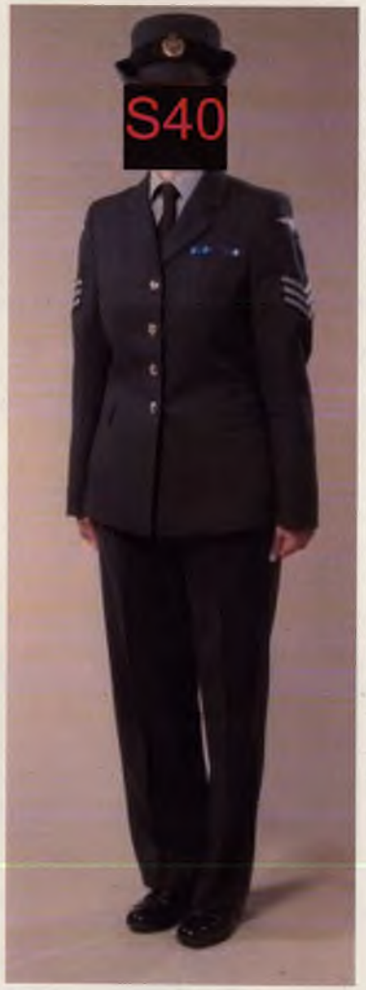
0313. Officer-style greatcoats have provision for a sword slit. For ir dres and below greatcoats have built in shoulder straps with blue/black rank braid. Greatcoats for AVM and above have two sets of detachable shoulder boards, one set with conventional blue/black rank braid whilst the other is ranked in gold, with embellishments.

ORDER OF DRESS – No 1 SD – FEMALE OFFICERS, WO AND AIRMEN

Officer

Officer (with trousers)

SNCO



SNCO and Below (with trousers)

ORDER OF DRESS – No 1 SD – FEMALE OFFICERS AND AIRWOMEN

Short Description and Occasions for Wear	Uniform Items	Notes
No 1 SD Uniform Reserved for parades, ceremonial and other formal occasions, as ordered.	**Hat:** No 1 SD Hat. **Jacket:** No 1 SD. **Skirt or Trousers:** No 1 SD (Note 1). **Shirt:** Issue long sleeve Wedgwood Blue. **Tie:** Black issue. **Shoes:** Highly polished black laced or Service issue court, as ordered (Note 2). **Hose:** 15 Denier – Nearly or Barely black. Black issue socks with trousers. **Coat:** Greatcoat if required/ordered (Note 3). **Gloves:** Brown leather for officers and WOs - white if sword is carried. If ordered, other ranks wear black issue leather (Note 4).	1. When dictated owing to inclement weather or health and safety concerns, the CO can order that all females on parade are to wear trousers. For more major, national or state ceremonial occasions the mode of dress will be as directed by SO1 RAF Ceremonial. 2. Court shoes are not to be worn for marching or with trousers. 3. Greatcoats may be ordered for parades/ceremonial duties if required. No other form of outerwear is to be worn with No 1 SD when on parades/ceremonial duties. When not on parade/ceremonial duty and not otherwise ordered, the greatcoat or service issue blue rain jacket may be worn with No 1 SD. 4. Brown Service issue leather gloves are to be worn or carried by officers and WOs at detailed in Chap 1 Para 0141 (a). White gloves are to be worn if swords are carried. If ordered, airmen are to wear issue black leather gloves. As detailed in Chap 9, personnel may be required to wear white cotton gloves on ceremonial occasions.

ORDER OF DRESS – No 1 and 1A SD UNIFORM – FEMALE AVM AND ABOVE (See Note)

Short Description/Occasion for Wear	Uniform Items
No 1 SD Uniform (AVM and above) Reserved for parades, ceremonial and other formal occasions as ordered.	As for No 1 SD with following exceptions: **Hat:** The double row of embellished gold oak leaf depicts an air officer. **Shoulder Boards**: Plain boards are worn only with No 1 SD.
No 1A SD – Ceremonial Day Dress. Reserved for certain ceremonial occasions as ordered.	As for No 1 SD with following exceptions: **Shoulder Boards:** Embellished shoulder boards fixed by means of shoulder loops and 27 ligne-anodized buttons. **Sash:** Air Officer gold/blue. **Gloves**: White cotton.

Note: Also applies to those officers assigned to the 1* posts of Comdt RAFC Cranwell, Air Officer Wales, Air Officer Scotland and CG RAF Regt/AO RAFP, DNS (RAF) and Equerry to The Queen wear AO Ceremonial Sash only.

No 2 SD – Female Officers and Airwomen

0314. Occasions For Wear. Except where a specific order of dress has been prescribed, the under mentioned modes of No 2 SD are permitted. Illustrations and relevant orders of dress are detailed at the end of this section.

a. **No 2 SD.** No 2 SD is jersey and long sleeve shirt mode with tie. All personnel may wear No 2 SD indoors and outdoors, as a routine working dress, throughout the year.

b. **No 2A SD.** No 2A SD is long sleeve shirt no jersey mode and is always worn with tie. All personnel may wear No 2A dress, indoors and outdoors, as a routine working dress, throughout the year.

c. **No 2B SD.** No 2B SD is short sleeve shirt mode, or Service issue blouse and is never worn with tie. All personnel may wear No 2B dress, indoors and outdoors, as a routine working dress, throughout the year.

d. **No 2C SD.** Only those personnel detailed at Para 0319 (c) may wear No 2C SD, indoors and outdoors, as a routine working dress, throughout the year.

No 2 SD – Authorised Ensemble

0315. Hat. A beret, FSC (optional extra at own expense) or No 1 SD hat may be worn by airmen. Officers may wear a No 1 SD hat or FSC; RAF Regtiment officers may wear a beret. RAFP WO and below wear their white topped No 1 SD.

0316. Jersey. Only the Service issue crew neck or V-neck style jersey is to be worn with working dress modes. Stable belts are not to be worn outside the jersey. When not wearing a proscribed order of dress, a short sleeve shirt may be worn under a jersey with the addition of a tie. When worn with GPJ the bottom of the jersey is not to protrude below the waistband of the jacket.

0317. Skirt. Only the Service issue No 2 SD skirt is to be worn. The finished length of the skirt is to be mid-knee. Unless otherwise ordered, it may be worn throughout the year at the individual's discretion.

0318. Trousers. Only the Service issue No 2 SD trousers are to be worn. They are to be worn with pressed in creases front and back, extending the full length of each leg. Females may elect to wear male pattern No 2 SD trousers on grounds of better fit and/or comfort.

0319. Shirts.

a. **Long-Sleeved Shirt.** Only the Service issue long sleeved wedgwood blue shirt is to be worn with No 2 and 2A SD. It is to be worn with a single crease pressed in on each sleeve running from the centre of the shoulder strap to the cuff. Front darts are to be pressed in to the level of the second button and the rear darts down the full length of the shirt. Sleeves are never rolled up and a tie must be worn.

b. **Short Sleeved Shirt and Blouse.** Only the Service issue short-sleeved, wedgwood blue shirt or blouse is to be worn with No 2B SD. It is to be worn with creases pressed in on each sleeve running from the centre of the shoulder strap to the sleeve end. Front darts are to be pressed in to the level of the second button and the rear darts down the full length of the shirt. The blouse is never worn with a tie. In colder conditions the jersey may be worn over the blouse, arranging the revere collar so that it lies neatly outside the jersey neck.

c. **Dark Blue Working Shirt.** RAF dark blue working shirt, No 2C SD, is authorised for wear, throughout the year, by airwomen in those trades listed below. It is to be worn with creases pressed in on each sleeve running from the centre of the shoulder strap to the cuff. Sleeves may be rolled up. A tie is never worn with this shirt.

TG 1	Aircraft Engineering	TG 6	Logistics (MTD)
TG 2	Electrical Engineering	TG 8	Fire Fighters only
TG 3	Ground Electronic Engineering	TG13	Survival Equipment Technician
TG 4	ICT Technician and ICT Aerial Erector	TG 18	Logistics (Supply & Movements)
TG 5	General Engineering		

0320. Hosiery. Service issue black socks are to be worn with trousers. Nearly or Barely Black tights/stockings are to be worn with the skirt.

0321. Footwear. Service issue black laced shoes or Service issue court shoes may be worn with the skirt. Court shoes are not to be worn with trousers or when engaged in foot drill. Females may elect to wear male pattern DMS shoes with No2 SD trousers on grounds of better fit and/or comfort.

0322. Belts. Optionally, unless otherwise ordered, authorised pattern stable belts (see para 0143 for details). When the stable belt is worn the dark stripe is to be uppermost, the leather fastenings of the RAF stable belt are to be secured over the left hip. The locket and union style RAF stable belt is to be worn centrally. Stable belts are not to be worn outside a jersey.

0323. Coats. Only issue outerwear is to be worn by officers or airwomen. Unless otherwise detailed, personnel who are in possession of their own serviceable greatcoat may wear them with No 2 and No 2A SD uniforms.

0324. Blue Leather Flying Jacket. A blue leather flying jacket of the standard approved pattern may be purchased at personal expense and worn with No 2 SD by Officers, WOs and SNCOs. If worn, the jacket zip slider is to be zipped up to at least 10 cm from the top zip stop.

0325. Gloves. Issue brown leather for officers and WOs and issue black leather for SNCOs and below may be worn when a jersey or when outwear is worn.

Maternity Wear

0326. Maternity wear is designed to be worn from a point when the standard uniform becomes too tight. Available wear is a choice/combination of dress, trousers, short sleeve shirts and cardigan. Shirts are to be worn outside the trousers or skirts. The dress, shirts and cardigans are designed to take standard rank insignia. The MVP RAF Weatherproof Jacket will accommodate the majority of pregnancies up to maternity leave. As a last resort if a suitable size Service issue jacket cannot be provided a dark civilian top coat may be worn outdoors. Headwear should not be worn in this instance.

ORDER OF DRESS – No 2 SD – FEMALE

ORDER OF DRESS – No 2 SD – FEMALE

Short Description and Occasions for Wear	Authorised Uniform Items	Notes
No 2 SD Unless otherwise ordered, can be worn as a standard working dress, indoors and outdoors all year round	**Hat:** No 1 SD for officers (Note 1), beret for other ranks. (Note 2). **Shirt:** Issue long sleeve wedgwood blue (Note 3). **Tie:** Black Issue. **Jersey:** Issue blue/grey V or crew neck (Note 3). **Skirt:** No 2 SD (Note 4). **Trousers:** No 2 SD (Note 4). **Belt:** Optional Stable Belt (Note 5). **Shoes:** Black issue, highly polished laced or court (Note 6). **Hose**: Nearly or Barely Black tights or stockings with skirt. Black issue socks with trousers. **Coat:** Issue blue outerwear (Note 7). **Gloves:** Brown leather for officers and WOs, black leather issue for other ranks (Note 8).	1. Optional FSC; RAF Regt officers only may wear beret. 2. Optional No 1 SD Hat or FSC. RAFP WO and below wear their white topped No 1 SD. 3. A tie is to be worn. 4. Optional unless otherwise ordered. 5. The stable belt is not to be worn on the outsie of the jersey. 6. Court shoes can only be worn with skirt but they are not to be worn for marching. If marching in skirts, flat-soled laced shoes are to be worn. 7. Optional for inclement weather. If worn, the jacket zip slider is to be zipped up to at least 10 cm from the top zip stop (Page 3-43). 8. Optional for inclement weather. Gloves can only be worn with jersey or outerwear.

ORDER OF DRESS – No 2A SD – FEMALE

(Shown with optional Stable belts)

ORDER OF DRESS – No 2A SD – FEMALE

Short Description and Occasions for Wear	Authorised Uniform Items	Notes
No 2A SD There is only one mode of No 2A SD – long sleeve shirt with tie and no jersey. Unless otherwise ordered, can be worn as a standard working dress, indoors and outdoors all year round	**Hat:** No 1 SD for officers (Note 1), beret for other ranks (Note 2). **Shirt:** Issue long sleeve wedgwood blue (Note 3). **Tie:** Black Issue (Note 3), **Skirt:** No 2 SD (Note 4). **Trousers:** No 2 SD (Note 4). **Belt:** Optional Stable Belt (Note 5). **Shoes:** Black issue, highly polished laced or court (Note 6). **Hose:** Nearly or Barely Black tights or stockings with skirt. Black issue socks with trousers. **Coat:** Issue blue outerwear (Note 7). **Gloves:** Brown leather for officers and WOs, black leather issue for other ranks (Note 8).	1. Optional FSC; RAF Regt officers only may wear beret. 2. Optional No 1 SD Hat or FSC. RAFP WO and below wear their white topped No 1 SD. 3. A tie is always worn with No 2A SD dress, under no circumstances even in the working place, are shirtsleeves to be rolled up. 4. Optional unless otherwise ordered, 5. The stable belt is not to be worn on the outside of the jersey. 6. Court shoes can only be worn with skirt but they are not to be worn for marching. If marching in skirts, flat-soled laced shoes are to be worn. 7. Optional for inclement weather. If worn, the jacket zip slider is to be zipped up to at least 10 cm from the top zip stop (Page 3-43). 8. Optional for inclement weather. Gloves

		can only be worn with outerwear.

No 2B SD – FEMALE

With Skirt

With Trousers

ORDER OF DRESS – No 2B SD – FEMALE

Short Description and Occasions for Wear	Authorised Uniform Items	Notes
No 2B SD Unless otherwise ordered, can be worn indoors and outdoors all year round	**Hat:** No 1 SD for officers (Note 1), beret for other ranks (Note 2). **Shirt:** Issue short sleeve wedgwood blue or blue blouse (Note 3). **Skirt:** No 2 SD. **Jersey**: The jersey may only be donned over the blouse, the collar arranged to lie flat external to the v-neck. **Trousers:** No 2 SD (Note 4). **Belt:** Optional RAF Stable Belt (Note 5). **Shoes:** Black issue, highly polished laced or court (Note 5). **Hose:** Nearly or Barely Black tights or stockings with skirt. Black issue socks with trousers. **Coat:** Issue (blue) outerwear (Note 6). **Gloves:** Brown leather for officers and WOs, black leather issue for other ranks. (Note 7).	1. Optional FSC; RAF Regt officers only may wear beret. 2. Optional No 1 SD Hat or FSC. RAFP WO and below wear their white topped No 1 SD. 3. A tie is not to be worn in this mode. 4. Optional unless otherwise ordered 5. Court shoes can only be worn with skirt but they are not to be worn for marching. If marching in skirts, flat-soled laced shoes are to be worn. 6. Optional for inclement weather. If worn, the jacket zip slider is to be zipped up to at least 10 cm from the top zip stop. (Page 3-43). 7. Optional for inclement weather. Gloves can only be worn with outerwear.

ORDER OF DRESS – No 2C SD – JNCO AND BELOW ONLY

ORDER OF DRESS - No 2C SD – JNCO AND BELOW ONLY

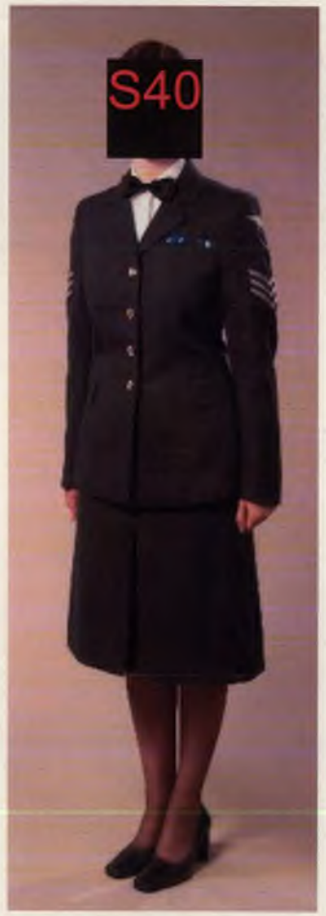
Short Description and Occasions for Wear	Authorised Uniform Items	Notes
No 2C SD Unless otherwise ordered, can be worn all year round by those trades listed at Para 0321 c.	**Hat:** Beret (Note 1). **Shirt:** Issue (long sleeve) dark blue working shirt (Note 2). **Skirt or Trousers:** No 2 SD (Note 3). **Belt:** Optional RAF Stable Belt (Note 5). **Shoes:** Issue, highly polished black laced. **Hose:** Nearly or Barely Black tights or stockings with skirt. Black issue socks with trousers. **Jersey:** Issue blue/grey V or crew neck (Note 4). **Coat:** Issue blue outerwear (Note 6). **Gloves:** Black leather issue (Note 5).	1. Optional No 1 SD Hat or FSC. 2. Never worn with tie on any occasion, . sleeves may be rolled up to above the elbow. Only the top (collar) button is to be undone. If worn, under vests are not to be visible. 3. Optional unless otherwise ordered 4. Optional for inclement weather. Shirt collar is to be unbuttoned and worn external to the jersey neck. 5. Optional but only when jersey or outerwear is worn. 6. Optional for inclement weather. If worn, the jacket zip slider is to be zipped up to at least 10 cm from the top zip stop. (Page 3-43).

No 3 SD – Operational Clothing – All ranks.

0327. Regulations for No 3 SD are as detailed for at Chap 2, Paras 0223 to 0231.

No 4 SD (Interim Mess Dress) – Female All Ranks

0328. The order of dress is the same as for No 1 SD except that a plain white shirt with normal collar and black bow tie replaces the wedgwood blue shirt. Medals are not worn.



ORDER OF DRESS - No 4 SD INTERIM MESS DRESS – FEMALE ALL RANKS

Short Description and Occasion for Wear	All Ranks
No 4 SD – Interim Mess Dress This is an interim mess dress for: 1. Officer Cadets who have not yet received scaled No 5 SD Mess Dress. 2. Non-regular officers, with the exception of those serving on class J commission. 3. Airwomen of all ranks.	No 1 SD with skirt or trousers, excepting: **Shirt:** Plain white collared attached. (Wing collars are not permitted) **Tie:** Black bow tie. **Shoes:** Black evening shoes or court shoes are only to be worn with a skirt. Black laced shoes are to be worn with trousers only. **Medals are not worn unless Royalty are present.**

It should be noted that 'interim' refers to the post war time period during which the provision of the fabrics and lace used for No 5 SD were difficult to source. Evening dress shirts (e.g. bib fronted/Marcella) should not be worn with the No1 SD jacket.

No 5 SD Mess Dress – Female Officers, WOs and SNCOs

0329. Occasions For Wear. The No 5 SD is provided as an initial free issue to officers and for SNCOs (regular and reserve) promoted after 1 Apr 10. It remains an optional item for those WOs and SNCOs promoted before 1 Apr 09. It is reserved in the main as an evening or mess dress and is worn by officers, WOs and SNCOs at Official Mess Functions. It may also be worn by retired officers, WOs and SNCOs. Badges of rank are to be worn as follows:

a. **Officers.** Full width gold ranking lace is worn on the sleeve of the No 5 SD composed as prescribed for No 1 SD. Fully retired officers wear the badges of rank as recorded in the RAF Retired List.

b. **WOs and SNCOs**. A gold-embellished, single rank badge is worn on the right sleeve only, in the position prescribed for No 1 SD. Retired WOs and SNCOs wear the badges of rank to which they were eligible at the time of discharge.

No 5 SD – Authorised Ensemble

0332. Hat. No 1 SD hat appropriate to rank – outdoors only.

0333. Jacket. All personnel wear a similar design jacket; however, officers entitled to wear aiguillettes and/or the Royal Cypher also wear plain shoulder straps. Half-size gold embroidered flying badges may be worn where appropriate.

0334. Skirt. All personnel wear the same design ankle length skirt, which is to have a 12" slit only, measured from the bottom edge of the hem at the centre back seam.

0335. Trousers. All personnel may elect to wear men's pattern No5 trousers instead of the issued skirt. These are privately procured at individual expense, however, those entering commissioned Service and those promoted to SNCO with effect from 1 Sep 21 are entitled to ask the supplier to produce trousers in lieu of the skirt.

0336. Shirt. The standard approved female pattern white Marcella shirt is to be worn fastened to the neck.

0337. Cummerbund. A plain slate grey cummerbund without pleating is normally to be worn. Official Sqn, Unit, Wing or Formation cummerbunds may only be worn by officers, WOs and SNCOs at the station commander's discretion and only on occasions when official guests are not present. When official guests are present a plain slate grey cummerbund is always to be worn by WOs and SNCOs.

0338. Bow Tie. Plain black double ended. Sqn/Unit/Wing/Formation bow ties are not to be worn when male personnel are ordered to wear No 5B SD uniform.

0339. Hose. . The approved uniform dress hose colour for wear with No 5 SD is: 15 Denier – Nearly or Barely Black.

0340. Shoes. Black patent evening or court shoes.

0341. Handbag. Black patent evening or clutch bag.

0342. Earrings. Small plain spherical, pearl, pearl type, gold or gold type earrings may be worn

No 5A SD Mess Dress – Full Ceremonial Evening – Officers Only

0343. The standard No 5 SD waistcoat is replaced by a white waistcoat and it is worn with a white wing collared shirt and white bow tie. The white waistcoat, wing-collared shirt and white bow tie are pool items and are available for loan from the Ceremonial Pool. Any officer requiring the loan of these items is to apply through their parent Unit supply section to Air A4 Log Spt Cer & Pol.

0344. Kilts. Only members of the Scottish-based RAuxAF Sqns, whilst serving on those Sqns, may, at the discretion of the Stn Cdr, wear kilts of grey Douglas tartan with No 5B SD. No other tartan is permitted. Kilts are not to be worn outside the confines of the Squadron/Station/Unit function and no other member of the RAF or RAuxAF may wear this or any other kilt with No 5B SD uniform at any occasion.

No 5 SD MESS DRESS – FEMALE OFFICERS, WO and SNCOS

ORDERS OF DRESS - No 5 SD MESS DRESS – FEMALE OFFICERS, WOs and SNCOS

Short Description and Occasions for Wear	Authorised Uniform Items	Notes
No 5 SD Mess Dress Reserved in the main as an evening or mess dress, worn by commissioned officers, WOs and SNCOs at formal evening functions e.g. dining-in nights and guest nights. No 5A SD Mess Dress Is Full Ceremonial Evening dress for officers only (Note 1) Reserved for specific occasions as detailed at Annex D, to Chap 10.	**Hat:** No 1 SD hat. **Jacket:** Mess dress blue/grey. **Shirt:** Female White Marcella. **Skirt:** Mess dress blue/grey. **Cummerbund:** Plain un-pleated slate grey. **Bow Tie:** Small plain black double ended. **Hose:** Nearly or Barely Black 15 denier stockings or tights. **Earrings:** Small, plain, pearl, pearl type, gold or gold type. **Handbag:** Black patent evening or clutch bag. **Shoes:** Black patent evening or court. **Coat:** Issue outerwear.	1. No 5A SD is for officers only. The standard No 5 SD waistcoat is replaced by a white waistcoat and it is worn with a white wing collared shirt and white bow tie. The white waistcoat and wing-collared shirt are pool items and are available for loan from the Ceremonial Pool. Any officer requiring the loan of these items is to apply through their parent unit supply section.

No 6, 7 and 8 SD (Warm Weather Area) – Female Officers and Airwomen

0345. Dates Of Changeover. The changeover dates between temperate and warm weather dress are as detailed in Paras 0245.

Female No 6 SD

0346. Occasions For Wear.

a. **No 6 SD Uniform**. The standard No 6 SD (3 piece KD suit) dress uniform is to be worn by female officers and airwomen on all formal and ceremonial occasions overseas as ordered by MOD or CINCs. Mode of No 6 SD for unit ceremonial occasions will be set by the Stn Cmdr, who will decide whether trousers must be worn. For more major, national or state ceremonial occasions the mode of dress will be as directed by SO1 RAF Ceremonial. Illustrations and relevant orders of dress are detailed at the end of this section.

b. **No 6A SD Full Ceremonial Day (White Suit).** Only scaled for officers holding specific appointments. Worn for formal and ceremonial occasions overseas as, as ordered by MOD or CINCs. Female officers may wear No 6A SD as ordered, the specific details for which are as per their male counterparts detailed at Chap 2.

c. **No 6 Dress (Frock).** No 6B SD (Working) Dress Frock is worn by all ranks on all other occasions and as a routine working dress. All ranks will be given an option to have a reduced scale in preference for an issue of No 7 SD items - long KD trousers, KD shorts and short sleeve KD shirt; Kestrel Scales will detail exact scaling. No 7 SD is detailed at Para 0355. Illustrations and relevant orders of dress for No 6 SD (Frock) are detailed at the end of this section.

Authorised Ensemble

0347. Hat. The headdress options are as follows:

a. **Officers.** The Service issue No 1 SD hat only, is to be worn on formal and ceremonial occasions. However, when worn as routine working dress, they may opt to wear the airwomen's No 1 SD hat, with appropriate hat badge or optional FSC; RAF Regt officers only may wear a beret.

b. **Airmen.** The Service issue No 1 SD hat only, is to be worn on formal and ceremonial occasions. No 1 SD hat, beret or optional field service cap may be worn with working dress. WOs may opt to wear the airwomen's No 1 SD hat, with appropriate hat badge as an alternative working dress hat. WO and below wear their white topped No 1SD hat.

0348. Jackets.

a. **No 6 SD.** All No 6 SD Jackets have shoulder straps for rank slides.

b. **No 6A SD.** Consists of a pocket-less jacket in white polyester cotton fastened by six 37 ligne detachable mounted gilt buttons. Worn with No 1 SD Hat, white T shirt, No 8 SD shoulder boards, highly polished black laced shoes and black socks. A full sized gold and silver wire flying/aircrew brevet and aiguillettes are to be worn by entitled personnel (See Annex B to Chap 9).

0349. Trousers. The No 6 and 6A SD trousers are made of the same material as the relevant jacket and are to be worn with pressed in creases, front and back, extending the full length of each leg. Court shoes are not to be worn with No1 SD trousers.

0350. Skirt. Only the issue No 6 SD suit skirt is to be worn with the No 6 SD jacket. Vertical creases are not to be pressed into the skirt. The finished length of uniform skirts is to be mid knee.

0351. Shirt. A stone long-sleeved shirt is to be worn with No 6 SD with creases pressed in on each sleeve, running from the centre of the shoulder strap to the cuff. Front darts are to be pressed in to the level of the second button and the rear darts down the full length of the shirt. Chaplains may wear a white shirt with a clerical collar and spade stock (not double collar).

0352. Tie. The issue black tie, secured with a Windsor knot, should be worn with No 6 SD.

0353. Hose. Seamless hosiery in a natural shade approptiate to the individual is to be worn with skirt or frock. Black issue socks are to be worn with trousers.

0354. Shoes. As ordered, highly polished black laced or court. Court shoes are not to be worn for marching or with trousers.

0355. Sandals. When ordered, the authorised pattern brown sandals may be worn with the No 6 working dress frock during warm weather seasons. Hose need not be worn, at the individuals' discretion.

ORDERS OF DRESS - No 6 SD UNIFORM WARM WEATHER – FEMALE OFFICERS, WO AND AIRMEN

ORDERS OF DRESS - No 6 SD UNIFORM WARM WEATHER – FEMALE OFFICERS, WO AND AIRWOMEN

Short Description and Occasions for Wear	Authorised Uniform Items	Notes
No 6 SD Uniform – Warm Weather Areas. This order of dress is reserved for ceremonial and other formal occasions, as ordered during authorised warm weather periods.	**Hat:** No 1 SD hat. **Jacket:** No 6 SD stone (Note 1). **Skirt:** No 6 SD stone. **Trousers:** No 6 SD stone. **Shirt:** Long sleeve stone. **Tie:** Black issue. **Hose:** Seamless tights or stockings in a natural shade appropriate to the individual with skirt. Black socks with trousers. **Shoes:** Black issued highly polished laced shoes or court (Note 2). **Gloves:** White (Note 3).	1. All No 6 SD jackets have shoulder straps for rank slides. 2. Court shoes are not to be worn for marching or with trousers.. 3. Must be worn by officers and WOs if sword is carried, otherwise only if ordered.

ORDERS OF DRESS - No 6 and 6B SD FROCK WARM WEATHER AREAS – FEMALE ALL RANKS

No 6 SD Frock
Note: this dress has black buttons not anodised as shown above

ORDERS OF DRESS – No 6 and 6B SD FROCK WARM WEATHER AREAS – FEMALE ALL RANKS

Short Description and Occasions for Wear	Authorised Uniform Items	Notes
No 6B SD Routine Working Dress Frock - Warm Weather Areas Unless otherwise ordered, is worn as routine working dress during authorised warm weather periods	**Hat:** No 1 SD hat for officers (Note 1), beret for other ranks (Note 2). **Frock:** No 6B Warm Weather with black buttons. **Hose:** Seamless tights or stockings in a shade natural to the individual (Note 3). **Shoes:** Black issued highly polised laced shoes, court or issued brown sandals (Note 3).	1. Optional FSC; RAF Regt officers only may wear beret. 2. Optional No 1 SD hat or FSC. RAFP WO and below wear their white topped No 1 SD. 3. Court shoes and sandals are not to be worn with trousers. With sandals, hose need not be worn, at the individuals' discretion

No 7 SD – Routine Working Dress Warm Weather Areas

0356. Occasions For Wear. No 7A SD (long trousers) and 7B SD (shorts) are worn overseas as a routine working dress. Unless otherwise ordered, it is routine wear by female personnel in the branches and trades listed below and optional working dress for all other branches and trades who elect to take the long trouser and short trousers issue option.

a. **Designated Branches/Trades.** Unless otherwise ordered, both No 7A and 7B SD are routine working dress for females of the following trades and trade groups:

TG 1	Aircraft Engineering	TG 8	RAF Police
TG 2	Electrical Engineering	TG 9	ATC
TG 3	Ground Electronic Engineering	TG 11	CSA (V) Only
TG 4	Communications Information Systems	TG 13	Survival Equipment Technician
TG 5	General Engineering	TG 14	ASOP and Photographer
TG 6	Logistics (Driver)	TG 18	Supply and Movements

b. **Other Branches/Trades**. Unless otherwise ordered, female personnel not included in the above trade groups who take the trouser and shorts option of dress issue may wear either forms of No7 SD during authorised warm weather periods.

Authorised Ensemble

0357. No 7A SD – Long Trouser Mode.

a. **Shirt.** Long Sleeve shirt or short sleeve shirt may be worn. When worn with long sleeve shirt, a black issue tie is to be worn at all times and the sleeves remain buttoned at the wrist.

b. **Footwear.** Black issue highly polished laced shoes or desert boots of approved pattern. Issue black are worn with black shoes and issue/approved stone coloured socks are worn with desert boots.

c. **Belt.** Stable belt or the blue/grey money belt may be worn.

d. **Headdress.** Officers may wear No 1 SD hat or FSC; RAF Regt officers only may wear beret. Airwomen may wear No 1 SD hat, FSC or beret. RAFP WO and below wear their white topped No 1 SD.

0358. No 7B SD – Short Trouser Mode. (Not worn in the Middle East or America)

a. **Shirt.** Stone short sleeve.

b. **Footwear.** Black issue highly polished laced shoes or desert boots of approved pattern.

c. **Socks.** Issue short stone colour.

d. **Belt.** Stable belt or the blue/grey money belt may be worn. .

e. **Headdress.** Officers may wear No 1 SD hat or FSC; RAF Regt officers only may wear beret. Airwomen may wear No 1 SD hat, FSC or beret. RAFP WO and below wear their white topped No 1 SD.

No 7A and 7B SD ROUTINE WORKING DRESS WARM WEATHER AREAS – FEMALE ALL RANKS

No7A working Dress – Long Trousers

7B Working Dress – Shorts

(Shown with Optional Money Belt)

ORDERS OF DRESS – No 7A and 7B SD ROUTINE WORKING DRESS WARM WEATHER AREAS – FEMALE ALL RANKS

Short Description and Occasions for Wear	Authorised Uniform Items	Notes
No 7A SD Routine Working Dress, long Trousers - Warm Weather Areas. Worn as routine working dress during authorised warm weather periods.	**Hat:** Officers, No 1 SD (Note 1). Other ranks, beret (Note 2). **Shirt:** Long or short sleeve stone (Note 3). **Long Trousers:** Stone. **Belt:** Optional RAF Stable Belt or the blue/grey money belt. **Tie:** Black issue – with long sleeve shirt only. **Shoes:** Black issue, highly polished black laced, or approved pattern desert boot for all ranks. **Socks:** Black with black shoes, stone with desert boots.	1. Optional FSC; RAF Regt officers only may wear beret.. 2. Optional FSC or No1 SD Hat. RAFP WO and below wear their white topped No 1 SD. 3. As preferred unless otherwise ordered.
No 7B SD Routine Working Dress, Short Trousers -Warm Weather Areas. Worn as routine working dress during authorised warm weather periods	**Hat:** Officers, No 1 SD (Note 1). Other ranks, beret (Note 2). **Shirt:** Short sleeve stone only. **Shorts:** Stone. **Belt:** Optional RAF Stable Belt or the blue/grey money belt. **Shoes:** Black laced or approved pattern desert boots. **Socks:** Issue stone colour.	1. Optional FSC;. RAF Regt officers only may wear beret. 2. Optional FSC or No 1 SD Hat. RAFP WO and below wear their white topped No 1 SD.

ORDERS OF DRESS - No 8 SD MESS DRESS WARM WEATHER AREAS - FEMALE OFFICERS, WO and SNCOS

ILLUSTRATIONS PENDING

ORDERS OF DRESS - No 8 SD MESS DRESS WARM WEATHER AREAS - FEMALE OFFICERS, WO and SNCOS

Short Description and Occasions for Wear	Authorised Uniform Items	Notes
No 8 SD Mess Dress - Warm Weather Areas. Note 1 and 3	**Hat:** No 1 SD. **Jacket:** Mess, white (Note 2). **Skirt:** No 5 SD (Note 3). **Cummerbund:** Plain unpleated slate grey. **Shirt:** Female White, Marcella. **Tie:** Small black bow. **Shoes:** Black evening or court. **Hose:** Nearly or Barely Black 15 denier stockings or tights. **Handbag:** Black patent evening or clutch bag. **Earrings:** Small plain, pearl or gold earrings may be worn.	1. Optional, at personal expense for WOs and SNCOs otherwise as other ranks (Note 4) 2. WOs and SNCOs have the same Officer pattern No 8 SD Jacket but tailored without shoulder straps and with gold/embroidered rank badge affixed to the right sleeve. 3 Optional – Skirt No 5 mess dress pattern/colour in lightweight material 4. Other ranks if required wear No 6 SD.

No 9, 10, 11 SD – Female musicians

0359. The orders of dress for female musicians are identical to those of their male counterparts and details are given in Chap 2. However the following plates detail the changes where skirts are substituted for trousers.

No 9 Dress

0360. Shoes. Black George boots. Alternatively Oxford pattern or DMS shoes may be ordered.

No 9a Dress

0361. Shoes. Black court shoes only are to be worn.

No 11 Dress

0362. Shoes. Highly polished service issue DMS shoes are to be worn.

No 11a Dress

0363. Shoes. Black court shoes only are to be worn.

ESTABLISHED BANDS – No 9, No11 and No11a DRESS UNIFORMS - FEMALE MUSICIANS

No 9 dress uniform

Musician with Cape

No 11 SD Ceremonial Parade Dress Warm Weather Areas

No 11a SD Concert Dress Warm Weather Areas

FEMALE OUTERWEAR

Officer and WOs Greatcoat

FS and Below

MVP Jacket

GPJ – With No 2B SD